15

## ABSTRACT

In order to operate a communication terminal for packet-oriented data transmission, at least one piece of status information is stored, for a communication terminal, in a memory unit associated with the communication terminal. Said status information is provided with a digital signature that is calculated from the status information by means of a private key for an asymmetrical encoding method associated with a first control unit associated with the communication terminal, for the resolution and/or conversion of network addresses. If the first control unit fails, a request is transmitted comprising the status information and the digital signature to associate the communication terminal with at least one second control unit, and the digital signature is checked. In the event of a positive check result, the communication terminal is associated with the second control unit.